



EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

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Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



Early week prices were higher on all sizes in all locations. As the week progressed prices in New York advanced on all sizes. The market tone was fully steady to mostly firm. Demand was moderate to very good, best where features were in progress. Supplies ranged barely sufficient to very short for present needs. Breaking stock as well as checks and undergrades' prices were higher. Demand was light as buyers find offerings limited to short of needs while values steadily increase. Many breakers were slowing schedules for the remainder of this week and most of next week. Floor stocks tight to barely adequate in most locations. Trade sentiment steady to firm, mostly fully steady to firm. Light type fowl prices ranged unchanged to higher with majority values higher. Offerings were reported about steady. Removal prices were steady at 4 to 12.5 cents per head.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were higher for all sizes. Other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was firm. Retail demand was still reported as good to very good with feature activity providing the best interest. Food service movement was mostly moderate. Supplies were barely adequate to tight. Central states breaking stock prices were higher. Demand was light for the limited offerings. Schedules were reduced. Floor stocks tight to barely adequate in most locations. Trade sentiment steady to firm, mostly fully steady to firm.

RANGE MOSTLY

EXTRA LARGE 100-109 104-106

LARGE 100-108 102-105

MEDIUM 83-89 86-88

MIDWEST AREA: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged, however all sizes were trending sharply higher. Trade sentiment was reported as fully steady to firm. Demand into all channels was moderate to good. Supplies were close to tight. Breaking stock offerings were in close balance to short for a moderate to good demand. Light type fowl were about adequate for slaughter needs.

RANGE MOSTLY

EXTRA LARGE 105-118 108-111

LARGE 100-115 107-109

MEDIUM 83-98 88-90

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL

Jan 16, 2004

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, Grade A Large or better, White eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	97.50	96.00	77.00
SOUTHEAST	98.50	96.50	76.00
MIDWEST	91.00	89.50	73.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	97.50	97.50	77.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	96.16	94.98	75.95

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR LOOSE EGGS AT FARM, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, CENTS PER DOZEN

	01-20-04	01-13-04	01-21-03
Large	87-94	70-77	53-57
Medium	71-75	53-57	41-45

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-JAN 19, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

				No	So	So	5-Area
				Cent	Cent	Atl	Pacific
Jumbo	Curr Wk	8.0	13.0	5.5	12.5	9.3	48.3
	Change	0.1	-0.9	0.2	1.2	-0.4	0%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	18.6	31.3	13.5	17.4	25.7	106.5
	Change	0.2	0.0	0.3	-1.9	1.3	0%
Large	Curr Wk	33.5	97.1	64.7	91.6	67.1	354.0
	Change	-2.6	-1.3	-4.8	8.6	2.2	1%
Medium	Curr Wk	14.7	31.5	12.8	15.6	32.5	107.1
	Change	4.2	-4.1	-1.1	-6.7	1.8	-5%
Small	Curr Wk	4.8	5.5	3.7	3.1	3.3	20.4
	Change	1.3	0.7	-2.2	-1.1	-1.3	-11%
Misc	Curr Wk	5.0	22.5	9.0	20.4	6.5	63.4
	Change	-0.2	-5.1	-0.5	1.0	-1.3	-9%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	17.5	47.8	14.1	26.3	22.2	127.9
	Change	0.5	-5.7	-1.1	-2.6	-6.4	-11%
Total	Curr Wk	102.1	248.7	123.3	186.9	166.6	827.6
Percent	Change	4%	-6%	-7%	-1%	-2%	-3%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	827.6	-3%	170
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	252.2	-16%	36
Total Shell Egg	1079.8	-6%	206

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 170 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

Processed Eggs: Weekly Eggs Processed Under Federal Inspection**WEEK ENDING 17-JAN-04**

(LBS IN THOUSANDS)		(EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)				
	CASES	LIQUID	LIQUID	LIQUID	DRIED	INED
	BROKEN	WHOLE	WHITE	YOLK		
CW	1,121,425	26,135	11,028	6,108	2,619	4,155
PW	1,166,377	28,442	10,665	6,011	2,826	4,157
LY	1,124,446	26,440	10,550	5,851	3,179	4,093
% CHG PW	-4	-8	3	2	-7	0
% CHG LY	0	-1	5	4	-18	2
2003	2,287,802	54,577	21,693	12,119	5,445	8,312
2002	2,337,369	54,437	22,198	12,398	6,063	8,542
% CHG YTD	-2	0	-2	-2	-10	-3

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE-	CURRENT	PREVIOUS	LAST
	WEEK	WEEK	YEAR
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.29	42.25	41.74
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.59	38.68	38.1

BROILER HATCHERY

STATE	Broiler Eggs Set in 19 Selected States		Broiler Chicks Placed in 19 Selected States	
	Jan 10	Jan 17	Jan 10	Jan 17
	Thousand			
AL	29,586	29,543	21,719	21,967
AR	31,084	31,324	24,747	25,061
DE	3,749	3,829	*4,354	5,224
FL	1,348	1,359	*1,609	1,637
GA	32,700	33,168	*24,976	26,211
KY	6,586	6,449	*5,742	5,649
LA	3,608	3,662	3,823	3,477
MD	*8,845	8,867	*6,143	5,049
MS	19,115	19,344	16,012	16,632
NC	18,192	17,864	14,017	14,115
OK	6,394	6,247	4,995	4,471
PA	*3,342	3,650	*2,563	2,653
SC	3,690	3,702	4,437	3,467
TX	14,695	14,800	11,982	12,001
VA	6,273	6,230	*5,088	4,798
CA, MO, TN, & WV	*16,797	17,021	*14,599	14,063
19 State Total	*206,004	207,059	*166,806	166,475
Previous Year Total	203,492	202,802	162,132	163,604
Pct. of Prev. Year	101	102	103	102

* Revised

Broiler/Fryer: Weekly Fryers Available for Marketing Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 27-Feb-04 is estimated at 153.7 million head. This compares to 154.4 million head the previous week and to 153.4 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 150.2 million head and the composite weighted average price 60.38 cents per pound.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES - WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 01/15/04-01/21/04**CURRENT LDS 73.25 FUTURE LDS 71.75 TOTAL LDS 145.00**

SE	NE		MW				LOADS
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	92.33	98.10	93.00	95.25	—	—	60.00
GNR W 2	—	101.00	—	—	—	95.50	3.00
GNR W 3	—	—	77.00	78.00	—	—	3.00
GNR BR 1	—	103.00	—	—	116.00	—	3.50
GL W XL	—	115.50	107.50	110.09	115.38	—	38.25
GL W LG	—	111.97	101.50	101.78	116.29	101.00	44.75
GL W MD	83.00	—	90.67	92.33	88.25	86.32	21.25
GL W SM	—	—	62.50	64.00	62.00	—	2.00
GL BR LG	—	—	112.00	—	121.00	—	9.75
NRBS - 48	—	79.00	—	—	—	77.25	7.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 17-Jan-04

SELECTED	CW	PW	PCT CHG	
CONSUMING CENTERS	THOUSANDS		PW	LY
ATLANTA	28.3	26.6	6	17
BOSTON	3.5	3.4	3	-8
CHICAGO	55.8	75.4	-26	26
DETROIT	28.2	38.6	-27	8
KANSAS CITY	8.8	10.1	-13	120
LOS ANGELES	96.0	97.2	-1	10
NEW ORLEANS	10.0	8.4	19	-22
NEW YORK	31.3	29.3	7	-10
ST. LOUIS	17.3	20.1	-14	-7
SAN FRANCISCO	24.1	25.2	-4	5
TOTAL	303.3	334.3	-9	9
4 WK MVG AVG	320.8			

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 17-Jan-2004

	YOUNG		YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS		
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	1,730	2,563	47	6	4,346
AVG WT	15.90	37.57	26.69	30.35	28.82
LAST WEEK	1,659	2,403	67	5	4,134
SAME WK YR AGO	1,717	2,681	69	9	4,476
AVG WT	15.61	38.16	24.52	26.66	29.28
TO-DATE/2004	3,389	4,966	114	11	8,480
TO-DATE/2003	3,491	5,290	145	28	8,954

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

Week ending 17-Jan-2004

(Preliminary) (Released 1:00 Eastern Time)

—YOUNG TURKEYS—			OLD		TOTAL TURKEYS	
THOUSAND	PCT CHG	AVG	BANDED	HEAD-	AVG	
HEAD	PW	LIVE WT	-THOUSAND	HEAD-	LIVE WT	
N EAST	935	8	22.71	(A)	937	22.71
SATL	696	-7	31.78	(A)	697	31.78
N CENT	1,857	7	33.54	(A)	1,858	33.54
S CENT	560	9	21.18	(A)	561	21.18
WEST	292	6	25.87	(A)	293	25.87
U.S. TOTAL	4,340	(B)	5	28.82	6	4,346
TO-DATE						
2004	8,469	(B)			11	8,480
TO-DATE						
2003	8,926	(B)			28	8,954

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 47,000 for the year 114,000; last year to date 145,000.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 17-Jan-04

(PRELIMINARY)	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	157,478	1,526	1,278	2,804	396
AVG WT	5.20	3.40	7.89	5.45	6.93
LAST WEEK	158,835	1,258	1,312	2,570	457
SAME WK YR AGO	153,150	1,841	1,505	3,346	410
AVG WT	5.14	3.30	7.84	5.30	6.48
TO-DATE/2004	316,313	2,784	2,590	5,374	853
TO-DATE/2003	305,691	3,577	2,918	6,495	831

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 156.3 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 159.4 million head or 3.1 million head more than or 102% of estimated fryers available.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 24-Jan-04

	Current Week 01/24/04(1)	Previous Week 01/17/04
CLASS	-----THOUSAND HEAD-----	
BRO-FRY	151,364(2)	162,400
LT HENS	1,573	1,664
HVY HENS	1,268	1,322
TOTAL	154,205	165,386

(1) Estimated

(2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 24-Jan-04 is 157.4 million head compared to 145.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 151.7 million head or 5.7 million less than estimated available. For week of 31-Jan-04 the estimated available is 158.4 million head.

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO
ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
DECEMBER 13	155.4	150.2	103%	5.23
20	156.3	147.8	106%	5.34
27	114.4	145.8	78%	5.22
JANUARY 3	136.5	147.1	93%	5.15
10	160.8	151.1	106%	5.17
17	159.4	156.3	102%	5.20
YEAR TO DATE	320.2	307.4	104%	
JANUARY 24		157.4		
31		158.4		

READY-TO-COOK POULTRY BROILER/FRYERS

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers f.o.b. and Delivered to First Receivers at major market areas week of 01/19/04-01/23/04 (cents per lb.)

	U.S. GRADE A			COMPOSITE		
	MAJ	WTD	AVG	LDS	WTD	AVG
Chicago	65.00-68.00		68.57	37	70.13	71
Los Angeles	75.00		74.45	67	71.20	178
New York	71.00-74.00		72.26	23	68.33	77

COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS

	Change from		
	12-Jan-04	12-Jan-04	20-Jan-03
19-Jan-04			
69.79	2.09	67.70	60.05
NUMBER OF LOADS	710		

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	LBS (000)
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CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/

8-16 LB HENS				
EASTERN REGION 3/	60-63	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	59-62	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	60-64	-	-	-

16-24 LB TOMS

EASTERN REGION	58-60	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	57-58	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	58-60	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F.

2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days.

3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting.

4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting.

5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - (INCL GOVT STOCKS)

SELECTED STGE CENTERS (IN THOUSANDS)

		FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM	01/19/04	3,142	131,988	43,827
AM	01/01/04	3,162	119,108	43,610
CHG		-20	12880	217
PCT CHG		-1%	11%	0%

HEN MARKETS

HEAVY TYPE Final Price, Generally for slaughter the week of 19Jan-03

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD. AVG
Southeast (1)	6-9.5 CENTS/LB.	8.5-9	8.60
Southeast (2)	TFEWR		
South Central(1)	6.5-11.75 CENTS/LB.	8.75-9.25	9.13

(1) At Farm Buyer Loading (2) At Farm Producer Loading

LIGHT TYPE 16-Jan-04 Cents per Head, generally for removal within the next 10 days (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds)

	RANGE	MAJORITY
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Eastern

Removal Cost 0-12 10-11

So. Central

Removal Cost Too Few To Report

No. Central

Removal Cost 4-12.5 5.5-10

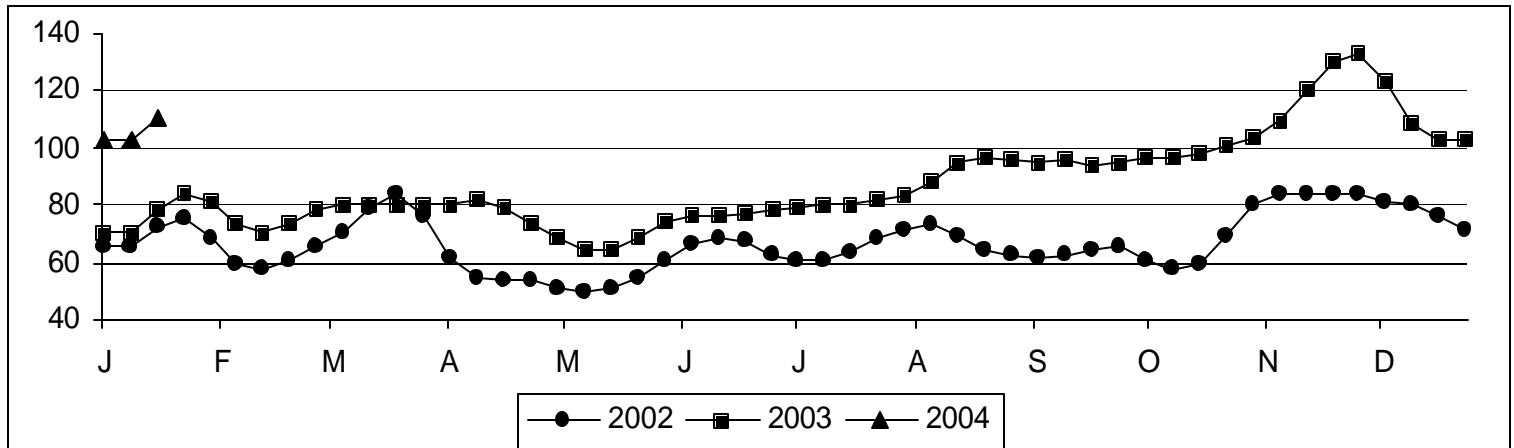
COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

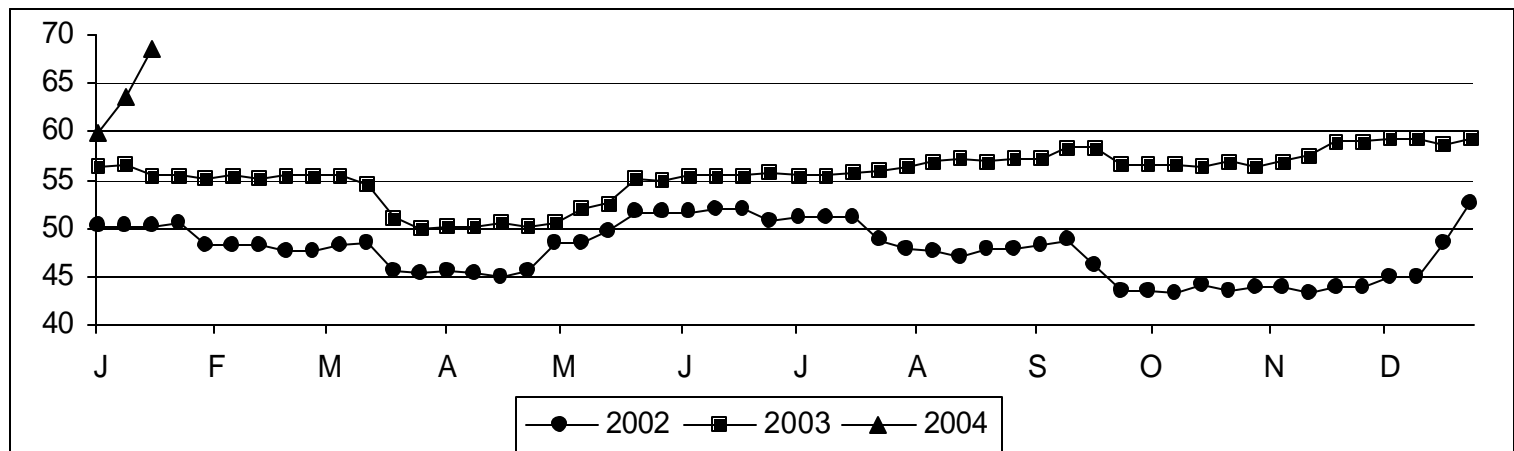
W/E 17-Jan-04

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	215.0	-1	-5
E.N. CENTRAL	575.5	5	-3
W.N. CENTRAL	295.8	2	-2
S. ATLANTIC	176.1	1	1
S. CENTRAL	105.1	-4	17
WEST	191.9	4	-2
TOTAL	1559.4	2	-1
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		85	85

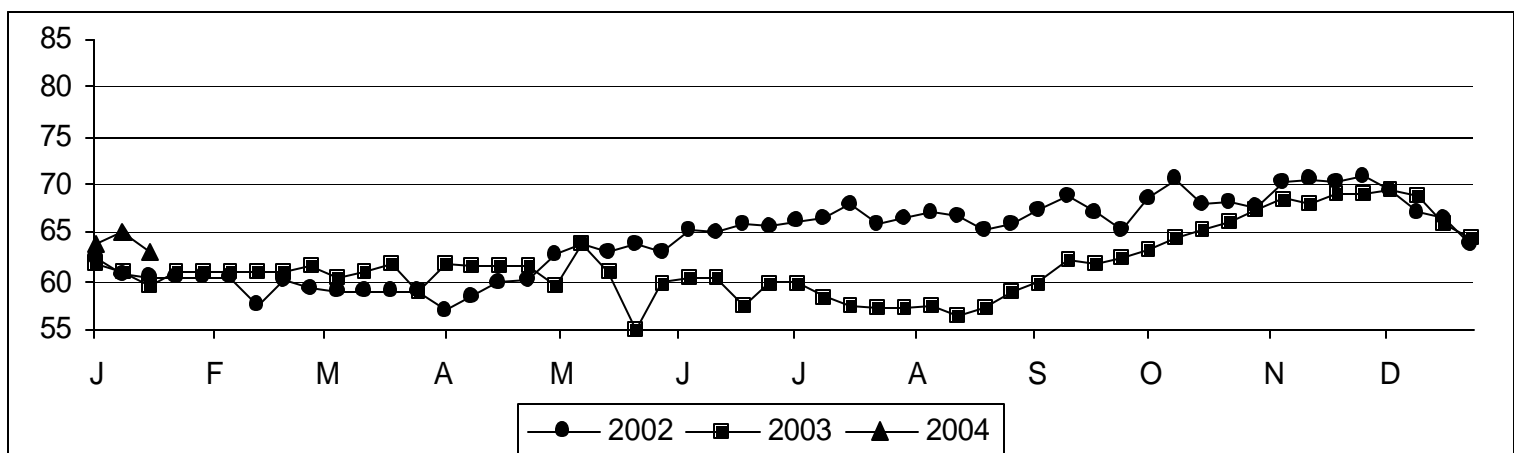
New York Large Weekly Average Price Cents per Dozen



Chicago Broiler/Fryer Weighted Average Prices Cents per Pound



Eastern Region Weekly Average Prices For 8-16 LB Hen Turkeys Cents per Pound



Note: Some Weeks' Average Prices are Based on Offers Only

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**Washington, DC**Mike Sheats
Branch ChiefVoice (202)720-6911
Fax (202)720-2403**Des Moines, IA**Mary L. Adkins,
(Officer-In-Charge)Voice (515)284-4471
Fax (515)284-4468
Recorded (515)284-4545**Atlanta, GA**Johnny Freeman,
Officer-in-ChargeVoice (404)562-5850
Fax (404)562-5875
Recorded (404)562-5856**Los Angeles, CA**Jim Derby,
Officer-in-ChargeVoice (213)534-1330
Fax (213)534-1333
Recorded (213)534-1335**Jackson, MS**Gary Brown,
(Southern States Area Supervisor)Voice (601)965-4662
Fax (601)965-4661